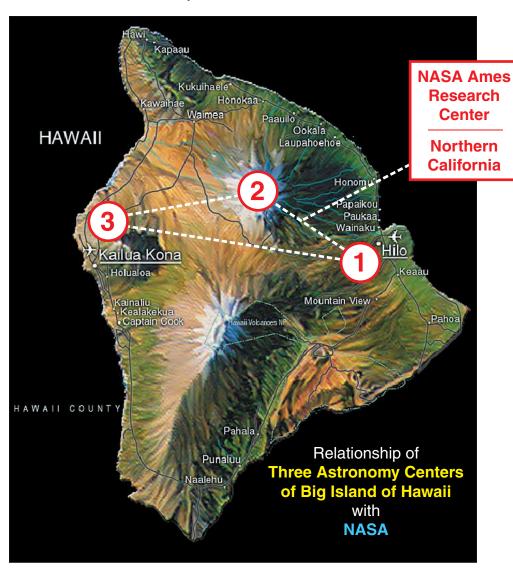


# NASA Ames Research Center Hawaii Astronomy Initiative

## An Ongoing Collaboration with NASA Ames Informal Education

Since the Fall 2005, an Education Team at NASA Ames Research Center has been working closely with and cementing a strong relationship between **three recognized Astronomy-related facilities** on the Big Island of Hawaii and the NASA facility at Moffett Field, California.





'Imiloa Astronomy Center http://www.imiloahawaii.org/



Infrared Radio Telescope Facility http://irtfweb.ifa.hawaii.edu/



Onizuka Space Center www.onizukaspacecenter.org

The history of the relationship with 'Imiloa Astronomy Center began in 1998 with members of the current Ames Education Team who worked with Peter Giles, the current Director of the Center (in Hilo, Hawaii), while he was previously heading the Tech Museum of Innovation in San Jose, CA. NASA Ames has also been working with Nancy Tashima, the Director of Onizuka Space Center (in Kona, Hawaii), for over ten years. The established trust and respect between the parties benefits everyone and provides a value-added relationship.



The **NASA Ames Education Team** is continuing its work with all three of the Hawaiian facilities. Some projects have already been finished, some are under way, and some are in the preliminary stage. The overall goal of establishing a strong tie between the three Hawaiian facilities and NASA is being closely nurtured and carefully grown. The long range plan of achieving a virtual connection to share information and education competencies between all Hawaii and the mainland remains on track.



### 'Imiloa Astronomy Center

Members of the NASA Ames Education Team are in the initial phases of developing education-related exhibits for the museum. In addition to assisting with actual design of the displays, the Ames EducationTeam is set to produce education activities and related materials. Web design, signage, and event support are also being considered. The natural tie between the skill and track record of the Ames Education Team at developing multi-media materials is of particular interest to the staff at the Center. Furthermore, a side benefit involves Ames' current analog comparisons of Mars and Earth,

which tie in nicely to the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center's objectives. The Ames EducationTeam also has provided requested printed material to assist with the grand opening of the museum.

### **NASA Infrared Radio Telescope Facility**

The telescope facility on Mauna Kea hosted a productive visit by the NASA Ames Education Team in January 2006. In addition to assisting the facility with a new identity (logo), the Ames Education Team is working on tying in the scope to a real-time exhibit at the 'Imiloa Astronomy Center. A mini-dome located within the museum will show actual images from Mauna Kea to visitors in Hilo 13,000 feet below. The Ames Education Team will be working through the University of Hawaii to make this exciting connection happen.



#### **Onizuka Space Center**

Very successful 3D handouts were recently created for a mainland conference attended by the Onizuka Space Center in the Spring 2006. In addition to the newly created materials, a wide range of other educational material



was provided as an integral part of the relationship. New exhibit signs have been completed and are scheduled for installation in the Summer 2006.

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